THE

SANITARY COMMISSION BULLETIN.

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THE SANITARY COMMISSION BULLETIN *is published on the first and fifteenth of every month, and as it has a circulation, gratuitous or other, of above* 15,000 *copies, it offers an unusually valuable medium for advertising.*

All communications must be addressed to the Editor, at the office, 1307 *Chestnut street, Philadelphia, and must be authenticated by the names and addresses of the writers.*

As the continuance of the publication of the BULLETIN *is uncertain, depending on that of the war, and on the resources of the U. S. Sanitary Commission—the Standing Committee feels a certain degree of reluctance to solicit subscriptions for it—and thereby to pledge the Commission to its issue for a definite period.*

The Committee understand, however, that some of their friends to whom it is now sent gratuitously, express a wish to pay for it, and they therefore give notice that the sum of two dollars, remitted to the Treasurer, (G. T. STRONG, 68 *Wall street, New York, or No.* 1307 *Chestnut street, Philadelphia,*) *will secure its being sent to such contributor during the remainder of the current year, unless its publication be sooner discontinued.*

ACROSTIC.

BY MRS. DR. MACGOWAN.

T o pour in oil and wine—sustain the brave,
H elp the wan suff'rer, be he free or slave,
E rect we here an altar where we plead.

U nlock your purses for our armies need,
N oble the cause, Columbia's patriots cry,
I mplore our aid to save, nor let them die.
T hrough camp and field, mercy with angel wings,
E ach hand outstretched relief and succour brings,
D isease with languid eye not turned in vain,

S eizes the boon, and dreams of home again;
T read lightly, see a wounded one at rest,
A s breathing low he slumbers, and is blest.
T urn we again, the thickest of the fight,
E yes filming o'er in death, a ghastly sight;
S ee gentle hands wiping the pallid brow,

S ighing, and groans, exchanged for blessing now.
A nd you fair helpers in this work of love,
N ot seeking aught but recompense above;
I nspired by that which droppeth as from Heaven,
T he rich reward of doing good is given.
A h, when again sweet peace to us shall come,
R eturning, dove-like, to her exiled home,
Y our starry banner wave on every shore,

C ircling our Union in its folds once more.
O ur glorious country, freed from every ban,
M ajestic rise first in the nation's van;
M ay the oppressed in every land then see
I n our proud eagle symbol of the free;
S olace, and rest, and when we drop a tear,
S acred to those whose memories are dear;
I n grateful hearts and homes, remember well,
O ur liberties secured by those who fell,
N ow fold their banners o'er them—all is well.

DEFINITIONS.

Banquette, is the step or foot bank running along the inside of a parapet, sufficiently high to enable the musketeers to stand and fire over the crest of the parapet.

Barbette.—Guns are in barbette when they are elevated behind the parapet, so that instead of firing through embrasures they can be fired over the top. A much wider range is thus secured.

Barracks.—From the Spanish *barraca*, are lodging houses for troops. When complete they are sufficiently commodious for mess rooms, cooking houses, guard houses, magazines, &c.

Barricades, are temporary obstructions to the advance of a foe, they are sometimes hastily made of trees, earth, wagons, boxes, barrels, bales, bags, &c.

Bastion, is a huge mass of earth, usually faced with sods; sometimes with brick or stones, standing out from the angles of a fortified work, to protect the walls.

Batardeau, is a strong wall of masonry built across a ditch to sustain the pressure of the water, where one part is dry and the

other wet. To prevent its being used as a passage, it is built up to an angle at top, and armed with iron spikes.

Battalion.—An aggregation of two to ten companies of infantry.

Battery.—A battery consists of two or more pieces of artillery in the field. It also implies the emplacement of ordnance destined to act offensively or defensively. It also refers to the company charged with a certain number of pieces of ordnance. The ordnance constitutes the battery. Men serve the battery, horses drag it.

Battle.—Battles are either parallel or oblique, and they are strategic when, in consequence of a plan of campaign, they are fought upon a given and objective point, as the battles of Marengo or Austerlitz.

The following preparations for battle are usually made by great commanders: All disposable troops are held in hand; the readiness of the troops is ascertained by inspection of arms; proper nourishment is given to them before going into battle; the projects of the day are communicated from grade to grade; the points for the ambulanlances and caissons are indicated; the rendezvous for rallying or retreating are made known; measures are taken to secure the rear and communications, in order to retain the mastery of the base of operations; the army is ranged ordinarily in two lines, and the position of reserves given in the order of battle; the three arms are disposed according to the nature of the ground; decisive points are occupied; open or flanking batteries are established on proper elevations; the front and flanks of the army are furnished with artillery, in number, kind, and calibre according to circumstances. These are preparations for battle; the action commences ordinarily as follows: marksmen are thrown forward, sometimes acting in conjunction with artillery. Either the enemy shows an equal disposition to attack, or else one party insults the other to bring on a combat. When the advanced guards have felt each other, the army disposed to make battle begins or increases its cannonade, to constrain the adversary to deploy his masses, show his different arms, and thus make known the composition, number, importance, and the direction to be given to the adverse forces. The reserves remain stationary, while the cavalry, properly sheltered from fire, watch their opponents, and throw themselves upon weakened or staggered lines of infantry. When the affair has begun, and the positions and dispositions of the enemy are known, and the proper effect has been produced by firing, the infantry may march to the charge, with the arms at a carry or on the right shoulder, leaving to the instinct of the soldier the determination of the proper moment of bringing the musket to the position of charge bayonet.

Bayau, is a small trench, or branch of a trench, leading to a magazine or to any particular point. They are generally called bayaus of communication.

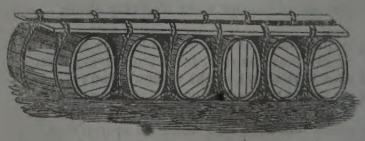
Breastwork, is a hastily constructed parapet not high enough to require a *banquette* or step behind it.

Bridge.—There are three kinds of military bridges. 1. Fixed bridges of timber. 2. Floating bridges. 3. Flying bridges.

Fixed bridge.—This may be built on piles or trestles, like any ordinary bridges.

Floating bridge.—Is generally adapted for the passage of troops over streams, and are supplied by pontoon trains, which accompany the army. Casks may be used to construct a bridge, and answer a very good purpose, as in fig. 3. Boats may be employed instead of casks.

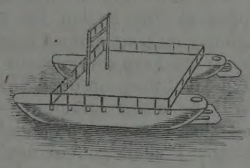
Fig. 3.



Flying bridge.—This consists of a large boat or raft firmly attached by a long cable

to a mooring in the center of the stream. It is made of two, three, or six boats, connected together and floored over, the beams being fastened to the gunwales of the boats with iron bolts, and the flooring planks nailed upon them. The most suitable boats are long, narrow, and deep, with nearly vertical sides, in order to offer greater resistance to the action of the current. A rope or cable is fastened to the upright standard on the floor, to the other end of which is on anchor, which is moored in the channel, if this is in the middle of the stream. If not, the anchor is placed a little on one side of it, toward the most distant shore. By means of a rudder the bridge is turned in such a direction, that it is struck obliquely by the current, and the force resulting from the decomposition of the action of the current makes it describe an arc of a circle around the anchor as a center; and this force acquires its maximum effect when the sides of the boats make an angle of about 55 degrees with the action of the current. See fig. 4.

Fig. 4.



A flying bridge may, in case of emergency, be made of any kind of boats, with the means of fixing rudders to them.

A most curious contrivance for crossing streams is found in what are known as *hide boats.* They are made of four buffalo hides, strongly sewed together with buffalo sinew, and stretched over a basket work of willow 8 feet long and 5 feet broad, with a rounded bow. To prevent leakage, the seams are covered with ashes and tallow, and exposed to the sun for some hours, when the skins contract and tighten the whole work. Such a boat, with four men in it, draws only four inches of water.

FROM CITY POINT.

BY J. H. DAVIS.

HEAD-QUARTERS FIELD RELIEF CORPS,
OF ARMIES OPERATING AGAINST RICHMOND,
PATRICK STATION, *Feb.* 6, 1865.

I sit down to write you a narrative of what has transpired during the last two days, which will be somewhat confused perhaps, and disconnected. Late Saturday evening the order came for two brigades of the 1st division and 2d and 3d division of the 2d Army Corps, to supply themselves with four days' rations, and to be in readiness to march at daylight. We accordingly prepared ourselves to go with them. At four in the morning of Sunday we roused ourselves and prepared our wagon for the march. Our battle stock came in very opportunely. We started the column about 7 o'clock, and soon made the picket line. The head of our advance had scarcely debouched from the vedette line, ere skirmishing began. The rebels contested every inch of the ground, and by noon we had only advanced to within five miles of "Hatcher's Run;" here the rebels had made a stand, but the cavalry flanked them out of their rifle-pits.

A BATTLE.

We laid in position the rest of the day, and until 3 o'clock our casualities were small——only about fifteen or twenty killed and wounded. About half-past four, Mahone's Corps of the Rebel Army, advanced on the troops of the 2d and 3d brigades of the 3d division, and 1st brigade of the 2d division, 2d corps, who were busily entrenching themselves about three-fourths of a mile north of "Hatcher's Run." The rebels came on in three lines of battle, with loud yells, and charged the line; but the vipers bit at a file, for most all the troops had perfected their breast-works. The rebels were repulsed with loss; nothing daunted by their first failure, they came on again and again, until they had made five distinct charges, but every time were signally repulsed. They finally retired with severe loss. Some estimate their loss at upwards of 500 killed and wounded. Our loss was slight. The 8th New Jersey and 120th New York, suffered the most; the 8th losing 42 killed and wounded—altogether, the division lost about 75. The 2d division lost about 60. The two corps remained in undisturbed possession of their works all night.

Being about five miles at the farthest

point of our line from the hospital, it was deemed expedient to send the wounded into the hospital, which was accordingly done. General Humphreys sent to us an order to go in, as in his opinion, we could do more good at the hospital; and as the night promised to be cold, he thought we would be more comfortable. Finding that we could be of little use at night we came into camp and unloaded.

I forgot to mention the fact, that Uncle John* and Mr. Riechenbach were with me, and performed much good service. To-day I went out again, but did not take the wagon. I filled my capacious saddle-bags with ginger, towels, stockings and matches, and mounting "Old Jeff," wended my way to the battle front.

HATCHER'S RUN.

On approaching "Hatcher's Run," I found the whole 5th corps laying around the old rebel line, which we had taken the day before. They had struck out from the ———, and having made a march of some 15 or 20 miles on the arc of a circle, found themselves on the left of the 2d corps, and in the rear of the cavalry division, who had struck out from the Jerusalem plank road, and made a raid on the Boynton road, running parallel with the South Side railroad, and had captured 27 wagons loaded with forage, besides a rebel colonel, major, and three first lieutenants, whom they brought in early this morning. The brigade of cavalry in the advance, about two miles above the "Run," were in great danger of being captured. While cooking their breakfast they were almost surrounded, and only got out of their position by hard fighting. I arrived on the ground about 9 o'clock, and found Agent Barton of the 5th corps with his wagon; he was with the corps all through their march, but up to that time, had not been able to do much for the wounded. All the morning our cavalry skirmished with the rebels, who proved to be Pegram's Division of Ewell's Corps, and Mahone's Division with part of Hokes. About 4 o'clock a brigade of cavalry were ordered to charge a rebel position to the left of our line, held by some dismounted rebel cavalry, among whom were the 13th Virginia; but the position being among pines, where horses could not go, and a brigade of infantry being found in support of them, we did not succeed in driving them. Here we captured the colors of the 57th North Carolina, and about 100 prisoners Soon after the 5th corps were ordered in, the 1st division leading, supported by the 2d and 3d, who forced the rebels back, and gained considerable ground. Your correspondent was on the battle-field, and made two narrow escapes from death by the rebel shells, while he stood up to the work, doing all he could in his power to relieve the wounded. The minnie balls came too provokingly close for comfort, but I entered into the excitement of the scene, and was almost unconscious of the fatal bullets, which struck men down all around me. Finally the storm of battle receded and we were left alone with the wounded and dying. I left the field about 5 o'clock, feeling that we had made a splendid advance towards the only railroad now in the possession of the rebels.

THE WOUNDED.

At the Run I found the 6th corps advancing to the support of the 5th. Since I turned my face homeward, I have learned that the 3d division of the 5th corps suffered a terrible loss. The rebels must have charged on that portion of the line, massing their troops for that purpose. We have just received news that the wounded are to be shipped at this station for the Point and are busy making arrangements to receive them; we have several pails of punch made, and shall keep up until they arrive, which will be about midnight. We are doing all that can be done under the circumstances. I shall go out again in the morning and will ascertain the situation.

I need more stock, as my men will be very busy and very tired from their labors; say 3 barrels crackers; 3 water pails, tin or wood; 3 cases milk; 100 shirts; 2 gross Jamaica Ginger; 100 pairs of drawers; 100 arm slings; 100 pairs of stockings; 2 dozen feeding cups; 2 cases soup, boulli; 1 case Sherry wine; 200 towels; 200 handkerchiefs; 100 lbs. chewing tobacco; 3 boxes of farina; 100 lbs. smoking tobacco; 50 lbs. sugar.

Send all the tobacco you can spare. This will do for both corps—Barton and myself.

I do not know of many officers killed or wounded.

Let me hear from you. Send out letters if there be any. I have been in the saddle for two days; that must be my excuse for

* Rev. John Vassar, one of our most efficient agents, universally known as "Uncle John."

not doing better in the story line. I am very tired and sleepy—12 o'clock.

HEAD-QUARTERS ACTING SUPT. FIELD RELIEF CORPS, OF ARMIES OPERATING AGAINST RICHMOND, *Feb.* 7, 1865.

I closed my letter of last night near midnight, with the pots filled, water on the fire and everything ready for the reception of the wounded. Finding that the ambulances did not arrive, I laid down and soon fell asleep. About 2 o'clock in the morning the first load arrived,—and such a load! The night was very cold, and towards morning it commenced snowing. The cars did not arrive in season to meet them; an ambulance train, it is said, was the cause of the delay. The men were unloaded upon the platform, and many died from sheer exposure. The scene upon and around the platform was one which appalled the stoutest heart. Men shot and suffering from every conceivable kind of wounds, groaned in their agony, or shouted in their frenzy,—bleeding, dying for their country. It was a night of horrors; men lay down and died without a struggle. One man is now lying dead on the end of the platform. Here the Commission came in and put in an unanswerable argument in its favor.

"UNCLE JOHN."

I must tell you how much we owe to Uncle John, (an agent,) who was here, there and everywhere, doing all he could to assist the suffering heroes. He was up all night, carrying out punch, which was dispensed freely to all. All our blankets came into requisition, for the men suffered intensely from the cold. Our stimulants and ginger relieved much suffering. It seems that the 3d division of the 5th corps advanced too far beyond the Run, and were flanked by the rebels; they trying to cut us off from retreating over the corduroy bridge over the Run. The rebels were in heavy force, and made a most desperate charge, closing in on the 3d brigade, and causing them to fall back. It is said that here the contest was fearful; the rebels attacking our men with the bayonet, and in many instances, clubbing them over the head with the stocks of their muskets; many of our men are wounded in this way. The 6th corps were then coming up to the support of the 5th, and a division was thrown across the Run to stop the triumphant career of the rebels. The rebels did not not succeed in gaining the bridge and cutting us off, or driving us into the Run, which is a nasty stream, not very wide nor deep, but impassable except by bridging. The rebels took some of our wounded prisoners. Notwithstanding all this our loss is not large. I have not visited the front to-day, owing to the storm and the duties of the hour.

I have been *punching* the wounded all morning, and have done much to relieve them. All the agents have done well, and the colored men have kept up all night without murmuring. The cavalry and the 5th corps have been at work skirmishing all day, and towards night the 3d division advanced, with what success I have not been able to learn. Picks and spades are coming up, which indicate a determination to hold the ground. I am looking for a big fight to-morrow; if fair I shall pack my saddle-bags and go out early and find Barton; I have not heard from him to-day. The goods came up all right. If we have a fight to-morrow I will be on hand to see all that is going on. I am expecting on 150 more wounded to-night. I am prepared to receive them. Good night.

LETTER FROM A. M. SPERRY.

The statement annexed gives the amount of stores used by the members of the Auxiliary Corps during the past month, but does not represent the work done.

Our agents—about thirty in number—are constantly engaged in visiting the wards, making the rounds with the same regularity as the surgeons.

The clothing and miscellaneous articles mentioned on the return are *all* given to the men with our own hands, and so well is this work now systematized that we feel *sure* that it is wisely given. Every case in hospital is intimately known, and no clothing or other article likely to be misappropriated is given until the need of it is fully established. Experience has taught us the necessity of caution, because of a few unscrupulous men, who are always to be found ready to abuse even so pure a labor of love as ours. These men are few, but troublesome alike to surgeons and to us. Experience teaches also that hundreds of worthy men are always to be found deserving all and more than we can do for them. To these it is always a delight to minister.

Articles of diet go to the kitchens for preparation. The call for these will continue, since neither the medical supply list

always gives them nor will the hospital fund always justify their purchase. Our supplies of these, form a kind of *contingent fund*, on which a hospital can draw whenever necessary.

It will be observed that our issues of *liquors* are very small. They are smaller than the real good of the men demands. It is said the government supplies are ample. So they are for certain purposes and of certain articles, but it is a matter of commonest experience with us that more can be used with greater advantage. Any ward surgeon can at any time point out men who demand attentions and stimulants that he cannot give. Sometimes lives have been saved—often recovery has been hastened. Especially has this been true of *Blackberry Cordial*. Many men are well to-day who would have died without it In some hospitals it is regularly prescribed by the surgeons, and issued through the dispensary; and this systematic use of it is really the most successful.

So in the use of ale. Much good has been done by it, and cases are pointed out where its use revived powers of nutrition almost spent.

I need not go through the list. I would it were in our power to give more rather than less. The government does its duty well, but its duty is not ours. Kindly and skillfully it takes care of men in masses. *We* are to go beyond this and give time and care and love to each suffering man because of those at home who love them.

Tabular Statement of Issues from Auxiliary Relief Stations U. S. Sanitary Commission to the Armies before Richmond, for the month of January, 1865.

Shirts, woolen	2326	Dried Apples, bbls.	200
Shirts, cotton	72	Cloves, lbs	3¼
Drawers	1924	Nutmegs, lbs	2
Socks	2378	Mustard, lbs.	32
Mittens	560	Soap, castile, lbs	51
Blankets	24	Thread, lbs.	8
Towels	2033	Boiled Onions, cans.	92
Handkerchiefs	1611	Apple Sance, cans.	248
Pillow Ticks	24	Beef Soup, cans.	42
Pillow Cases	36	Soup and Bouilli, cans.	140
Sheets	30	Julienne Soup, cans.	72
Flannel, yards	4	Blackberry Brandy, btls.	33
Wrappers	126	Blackberry Cordial, btls.	232
Milk, lbs.	1754	Sherry Wine, btls.	93
Tomatoes, gallons	452	Ale, btls	590
Beef Stock, cans	240	Cherry Brandy, btls.	116
Roast Beef, lbs.	240	Jamaica Ginger, btls.	563
Mutton, lbs.	1802	Whiskey, btls.	12
Tobacco, lbs.	3612	Lemon Syrup, btls.	80
Chocolate, lbs.	243	Brandy, btls.	52
Dried Fruit, lbs.	550	Flavoring Extract, btls.	429
Farina, lbs.	324	Cider, btls.	24
Gellatin, lbs.	114	Cologne, btls.	20
Sugar, lbs.	340	Envelopes	24,016
Tea, lbs.	30	Paper, reams	88½
Spices, lbs.	33½	Pencils, doz.	76
Ground Ginger, lbs.	5½	Ink, btls	616
Maizena, lbs.	428	Penholders	364
Crackers, bbls.	44½	Pens, gross	1
Spelling Books	370	Crutches, pairs	84
Matches, gross	174	Tin Cups	408
Pins, papers	188	Spoons	234
Needles, papers	160	Combs	3873
Darning Needles	24	Yeast Powders, boxes	100
Comfort Bags	50	Lemonade, cans	156
Pads	36	Pickles, gallons	146
Rags, bbls.	2½	Gerkins, box	1
Arm Slings	84	Chambers	13
Tin Pails	2		

Department of the South.

A TESTIMONIAL.

NEW ORLEANS, LA., *January* 21, 1865.

DR. GEO. A. BLAKE,
Agent U. S. Sanitary Commission.

SIR:—Before leaving the city, allow me to tender to you, and through you, to the Sanitary Commission, my sincere thanks for the many favors I have received at your hands, in the shape of diet and clothing, for the sick and disabled of the 1st Indiana Heavy Artillery.

I believe you to be true to the trust confided to you. Your activity and efficiency in responding to the many wants of our patriotic soldiers must command the respect and admiration of all who uphold the cause of our common country. I am sir,

Very respectfully,
W. L. SHEROD,
Surgeon 1st Indiana Heavy Artillery.

LETTER FROM WILLIAM R. MILLER.

EAST PASCAGOULA, *January* 28, 1865.

DR. GEO. A. BLAKE,
General Agent Sanitary Commission,
Department of the Gulf.

DEAR DR.:—I write you in the hurry of packing up, and of course, do not expect to present anything worthy of special notice. Confusion is at present the order of the day. Cavalry have all left;—several regiments of infantry have marching orders. I have been asked how long it will take to pack up; and on that hint, have everything packed, ready for a start. Fort Gaines is again to be my depot. I have received two consignments of goods—a large portion of which I have issued, and I am often cheered by the remarks from surgeons and men, "We did not know what the Sanitary Commission was until we met you." The kindest feelings exist between us. From commanding general to drummer-boy, I have all as my friends; and all are interested in the Sanitary Commission. I do not remember any period of my life in which I have realized as much pure pleasure as I have since my connection with the Commission. And now, on this day—which may be my last at Pascagoula,—I am just as happy and contented

as I desire to be; being convinced that this is not the proper base for operations against Mobile, and that the proper base has been found, and that Mobile will be ours just as soon as the troops could get there by this route.

Do not send me any more goods until you hear from me. My orders from the Medical Director are to have as much at Gaines as possible, but not to keep any here, more than sufficient for a few days. I have spent the week very profitably for myself and the men, but have no time to enter into particulars. Let it suffice that the command is in good health and spirits. Sick do not accumulate as I anticipated, and I am the more convinced that this is THE place for a General Hospital.

I enclose a letter sent to me a few days since—'tis not from a surgeon, but from one who has seen, perhaps, more of the advantages of the Sanitary Commission than any surgeon in the department. I receive and forward all such that come voluntarily without regard to the rank of the writer.

Dr. Udell, Iowa State Agent, is with me, and I shall send this by him.

Having no letter-paper with me, I am obliged to use note-paper, which you will please excuse.

LETTER FROM EDWARD HARMAR,

Acting Hospital Steward, Field Hospital, East Pascagoula, Miss.

FIELD HOSPITAL, EAST PASCAGOULA, MISS. }
January, 22, 1865. }

MR. W. R. MILLER,
Agent U. S. Sanitary Commission.

DEAR SIR:—As I am about to leave the service, and return North to my home, I feel it my duty to express to you in a feeble way, my appreciation of the many and valuable services rendered to the sick and wounded soldiers of this department, by yourself individually, as well as by the Commission you represent. Having served as Actin Hospital Steward in the St. Louis General Hospital, at New Orleans, La., at the Post Hospital, at Fort Gaines, Ala., and at the Field Hospital, East Pascagoula, Miss., I have in each place witnessed your course of action, and am prepared to say that your smiling and cheerful face is always a welcome one to the soldiers, and that the personal services rendered by you are of incalculable value; at least equal in amount to the supplies which you have so liberally provided, and I am fully satisfied, many valuable lives have been saved thereby. It would give great pleasure to refer to some particular cases, but I find such a multitude, that it is utterly impossible to particularize. Suffice it to say that if all Sanitary Agents equal you in discrimination and zeal, thousands of families will have cause to say God bless the Sanitary Commission, and I assure you I shall make it a point, wherever I go, to urge upon all, liberal contributions to your funds.

FROM ANNAPOLIS.

BY E. C. GUILD.

ANNAPOLIS, *Feb.* 4, 1865

I have the honor to submit herewith my report for the week ending this day.

On Sunday, January 29, I had the pleasure, at the suggestion of Rev. J. M. Clark, agent of the U. S. Christian Commission, of preaching at the College Green barracks, under command of Captain Charles W. Davis. There were not many occupants of the barracks this day, but I had a most interesting and intelligent audience of about 30 men, mostly composed of those detailed for special duty, under the orders of Captain Davis. In the evening I attended service in the officer's hospital, of which Rev. D. O. Sloan is chaplain; a sort of family worship in one of the wards of the hospital, followed by an hour given to sacred music. I have also had the pleasure several times during the week, of joining in evening prayers, held every evening in the tent of Miss Hall, superintendent of lady nurses. These social religious observances have a most beautiful influence in uniting in the closest and truest fellowship all who are laboring here in the cause of Christ and of humanity.

On Sunday, and all through the week, we have been overrun with applications for every form of relief, by men delayed here by the ice, or passing through on their way to the front. It has been a pleasure to do all we could to supply their wants, but where the number of applicants is so large, it has been impossible to meet the demands of all. We have reason now to expect that in consequence of milder weather, and the opening of the rivers, this unusual drain upon our resources will come to an end; and we trust soon to be able to begin again our more accustomed work of ministering to the needs of our returned prisoners. Rumors are again afloat of a renewal of the exchange, and our hopes and prayers are earnest and

fervent that they may prove well founded, and be speedily followed by the actual arrival of the sufferers whose misery we long to alleviate.

LETTER FROM CAMP PAROLE HOSPITAL.

BY MISS S. L. PHILLIPS.

February 3, 1865.

One of the features now presented in our daily rounds—more prominent perhaps than any other—is the absence of familiar faces that we have been wont to meet daily for many weeks. While some have taken furloughs, some been discharged, a few transferred to hospitals nearer home, and three or four have received a final *transfer* to their *eternal homes*, the number of inmates remains nearly the same; as new cases of *fever* are brought in from the camp almost daily; and a majority of the attendants in the different wards now occupy the place of those whom their assiduity and vigilance have helped to restore to a degree of health; or their kindly offices had failed to snatch from the grasp of death, though they had spared no efforts to do so. *Epidemic fevers* continue to prevail; but only in one or two instances have they as yet terminated fatally.

Applications to your agency for supplies of clothing have been less frequent of late; while the demand for farina, crackers, baked apples, lemonade, etc., has increased. Lemons are furnished by the Commissary Department.

Of the *lingering* cases of chronic disease, two or three have slept in death during the week; and a few others, with two or three of the severely wounded, still linger on the brink of the grave.

Cases of special interest to *us* have not been wanting; but none of so marked a character as to be deemed worthy of record.

Special Relief Department.

REPORT OF J. B. ABBOTT.

WASHINGTON, D. C.

I have the honor to submit the following report of the work accomplished in this office and the several relief stations under my supervision for the week ending this date:

Number of pay accounts of discharged soldiers received for adjustment	43
Number of back pay cases,	34
Number of bounty cases,	2
Claims for the pay of prisoners of war (for their families),	2
Number of naval cases,	10
Number of pension claims,	42
Number of claims for the arrears of pay and bounty of deceased soldiers,	3
Whole number of cases received and registered,	136
Whole number of cases adjusted,	118
Whole amount secured and collected, (exclusive of pension claims),	$10,783 83
Number of drafts sent,	14
Amount of drafts sent,	$1,786 03
Number of letters written, and copy pressed,	176
Whole number of letters mailed,	447
Whole number received,	495

LODGE NO. IV.

Number of meals given to soldiers,	2,656
Number of meals given to employees of the Lodge and others,	434
Numbers of lodgings furnished,	589

SIXTH STREET LODGE.

The report of this Lodge shows very little accomplished this week.

Refreshments to 25 sick soldiers, and meals to 125 discharged and furloughed men have been furnished. Mr. McPherran, the Superintendent, will start home on his leave of absence on Tuesday next.

ALEXANDRIA LODGE.

Number of meals given to soldiers,	270
Number of meals given to soldiers' relatives,	90
Number of lodgings furnished to soldiers,	99
Number of lodgings furnished to soldiers' relatives,	30

You will notice that there has been an increase in the amount of work accomplished at this Lodge the past week. This is on account of a part of the 23d army corps being temporarily stationed in the vicinity. Several hundred articles of clothing, stationery, &c., have been distributed from this station during the week.

One additional servant has been employed temporarily.

HOME AT BALTIMORE.

Number admitted to the Home,	74
Clasified as follows:	
Soldiers and seamen,	48

Soldiers' relatives,	25
Refugees,	1
Number of meals,	304
Number of lodgings,	95
Government transportation secured for	5
Transportation paid by the Commission to	3
Wounds dressed,	15

H. H. Trego reports reports 76 disabled soldiers accompanied and cared for between Washington and New York.

During the week we have furnished transportation, at the expense of the Commission, to 5.

BY J. B. BROWN.

I have the honor to submit the following report of the labors of the past week in my department.

Number of hospital back-pay claims entered,	34
Number of hospital back-pay claims adjusted,	26
Amount secured on adjusted claims,	$2,228 44
Number of prisoner-of-war claims entered,	2
Number of prisoner-of-war claims adjusted,	1
Amount collected,	$45 50
Number of prize cases entered,	10
" " " adjusted,	4
Amount collected,	$336 36
Aggregate collections for the week,	$2,610 30
Number of letters written in full,	58
Number of forms sent,	71
Total number of letters sent,	129

The amount collected the past week is much less than usual, owing in part to Mr. Cutter's absence, and to the number of old claims which are being worked up.

The number of naval claims have fallen off considerably in the last two weeks, which affect the aggregate collections considerably. Trusting that the coming week will show a large increase both in the number of new cases and in the amount collected.

BY WM. K. NEALL

WASHINGTON, D. C., *Jan.* 25, 1865.

The following shows the result of our labors during the past week in collecting back pay, bounty, &c., for discharged soldiers:

No. of cases received and recorded,	43
No. of cases settled by collection,	34
Amount collected in 34 cases,	$7,310 07
No. of letters written by me,	20
No. of blanks sent,	15

CASH.

Balance on hand, January 21st,	$2 00
Expended for car tickets,	2 00

BY W. P. BARRY.

WASHINGTON, D. C., *Jan.* 28, 1865.

I respectfully submit the following report of the work of my office for the week ending to-day:

Number new claims for pension taken and filed in Pension Office,	42
Number claims for arrears of pay and bounty, filed in 2d Auditor's office,	3
Whole number claims filed,	45
Number of pension claims allowed by the Commissioner of Pensions,	48
Number claims for arrears of pay and bounty allowed,	4
Whole number claims allowed,	52
Amount arrears of pay and bounty collected,	$788 46
Number of letters written, in full,	82
Number of letters written, in part, (blanks,)	103
Whole number of letters sent,	185
Number of letters received,	234

List of sick and wounded soldiers waited upon in transit between Washington and New York, for the week ending January 21, 1865. By A. H. Trego, Courier, U. S. Sanitary Commission.

JANUARY 17.

G. F. G., B, 29th Mass., Billerica, fits, from Colonel Tufts, discharged.

J. W. H., D, 1st H. A. Maine, Bangor, wounded foot, from "Home," transferred.

Mrs. H., Bangor, Maine, after son, per Miss Bradford.

N. McK., E, 1st H. A. Maine, Bangor, lame back, "Home," furloughed.

11 soldiers, sundry, Maine, via. N. E. R., N. Y., sick and wounded, from Home, &c., discharged and furloughed.

13 soldiers, sundry, Mass., via. N. E. R., N. Y., sick and wounded, from "Home," &c., discharged and furloughed.

4 soldiers, sundry, Conn., via. N. E. R., sick and wounded, from "Home," &c., discharged and furloughed.

6 soldiers, sundry, N. H., via. N. E. R., N. Y., sick and wounded, from "Home," &c., discharged and furloughed.

20 soldiers, sundry, N. Y. City, &c., sick and wounded, from "Home," &c., discharged and furloughed.

JANUARY 19.

J. K., E, 152d N. Y., Deerfield, left leg off, found at depot, discharged.

J. H. C., B, 2d Art. N. Y., Hagaman's Mills, wounded leg, depot, discharged.

J. F., B, 3d N. J., Bergen, sick, ("non compus,") "Home," discharged.

A. C., C, 19th Maine, Hallowell, arm off, found on train, furloughed.

D. D. F., C, 1st Cav. Maine, Abbottsville, sick, found on train, furloughed.

W. D., D, 56th Mass., Boston, wounded legs, found on train, discharged.

15 soldiers, sundry, Mass., Boston, &c., sick and wounded, from front, &c., discharged and furloughed.

25 soldiers, sundry, N. Y., via. City, &c., sick and wounded, from front, &c., discharged and furloughed.

7 soldiers, sundry, N. H., via. N. E. R., N. Y., sick and wounded, from front, &c., discharged and furloughed.

3 soldiers, sundry, Conn., via. N. E. R., N. Y., sick and wounded, from "Home," &c., discharged.

2 soldiers, R. I., via. N. E. R., N. Y., sick, from "Home," &c., discharged.

JANUARY 21.

5 soldiers, sundry, Mass., Boston, &c., sick and wounded, from "Home," &c., discharged and furloughed.

3 soldiers, sundry, Conn., New Haven, sick and wounded, "Home," &c., discharged and furloughed.

4 soldiers, sundry, N. H., via. N. E. R., N. Y., sick and wounded, "Home," &c., discharged and furloughed.

7 soldiers, sundry, N. Y. City, &c., sick and wounded, "Home," &c., discharged and furloughed.

Total for week, 135.

For week ending January 28.

JANUARY 24.

H. D., I, 15th N. Y., Albany, wounded, from "Home," furloughed.

E. L. B., D, 10th N. Y., Albany, wounded, from "Home," furloughed.

J. N. L., D, 10th N. Y., Albany, wounded, from "Home," furloughed.

W. E. W., E, 2d Michigan, Detroit, wounded, from "Home," discharged.

T. S., I, 61st N. Y. City, sick, from "Home," discharged.

H. H., C, 5th N. H., Concord, sick, from "Home," discharged.

E. C. R., (and brother,) K, 1st Vt. Cav., Underhill, sick, Baltimore, paroled prisoner.

8 soldiers, sundry, Mass., Boston, sick and wounded, "Home," &c., discharged.

7 soldiers, sundry, Mass., Boston, &c., sick and wounded, from front, &c, discharged and furloughed.

9 soldiers, sundry, Maine, via. N. E. R., N. Y., sick and wounded, found on train, &c., discharged and furloughed.

17 soldiers, sundry, N. Y. City, &c., sick and wounded, found on train, &c., discharged and furloughed.

JANUARY 26.

3 soldiers, sundry, Mass., Boston, wounded, from "Home," discharged and furloughed.

3 soldiers, sundry, Mass., Boston, sick, from "Home," discharged.

5 soldiers, sundry, Mass., Boston, &c., sick and wounded, "Home," &c., discharged and furloughed.

4 soldiers, sundry, Maine, via. N. E. R., N. Y., sick and wounded, "Home," &c., discharged and furloughed.

2 soldiers, sundry, N. H., via. N. E. R., N. Y., sick, from "Home," discharged.

11 soldiers, sundry, N. Y. City, &c., sick and wounded, from "Home," &c., discharged and furloughed.

JANUARY 27 AND 28.

Courier quite sick. Total for week, 76.

WOMAN'S CENTRAL ASSOCIATION OF RELIEF.

BRANCH ORGANIZATION, CONTINUED.

NO. VII.

An account of the Home Organization of this branch of the Commission was given in our last article. To-day we shall explain its Field Organization.

Each Branch of the Commission has its own *field*, from whence it draws supplies, and which is organized by it according to its best judgment. These fields are determined as nearly as possible by the natural divisions of the country, and the popular prejudices of the people. Their aggregate comprises the entire area of the loyal States, and constitutes the Home Department of the Sanitary Commission.

Our own field consists of the States of

Connecticut, Rhode Island and New York excepting some of the western counties. It is subdivided into Divisions and Sections. We have four Divisions. These have been made for the sole purpose of facilitating the home correspondence, and are arbitrary. A *Section* is usually one county, or part of a county. Each Section is in charge of one or more resident Associate Managers.

Soldiers' Aid Societies are classified into Centers of Collections and Contributing Societies. These may or may not be auxiliaries. *Centers of Collections* are established in cities, and in those places which are the natural commercial centres of the surrounding country, as Newport, Providence, Hartford, New Haven, Albany, Troy, &c. The Soldiers' Aid Societies of the towns and villages, sending their supplies either through these Centers of Collection, or directly to the Branches, are *Contributing Societies.* It is the desire of the Commission that all Auxiliary Soldiers' Aid Societies shall make the Branches in whose fields they are, their central depots. Our *Auxiliary* Soldiers' Aid Societies are those who, by vote, bind themselves to work exclusively through our agency. We never *ask* Societies to do this; it must come from themselves—a free will expression of their confidence in us. It is only natural, therefore, that the bond between our auxiliary societies and ourselves should be peculiarly strong. It is one of mutual confidence, dependence and affection, and marked by that freedom of intercourse which characterizes all true friendship.

We have wearied you with this dry detailed explanation, because we want you to understand thoroughly the general outline of the system, in which we are all taking part; and because it will facilitate our future intercourse to be able to call things by their right names, and so speak of them understandingly.

We have said that our plan of work was to help you, so far as was possible, by practical suggestions and otherwise. We are aware how imperfectly this has been done, how—with our own work so entirely different—we have been trying to anticipate your wants, not from any personal experience of them, but through intuition and sympathy alone. You know better than we can, what our failures have been in this respect. We know, too, how far short of the will the deed has been, and must be.

Let us show you at least what the design has been—what we have aimed at.

The women of one of our little villages wish to work for the soldiers. They wish to form themselves into a society, and work systematically and steadily, in such a way too, that the work shall not be borne by two or three only, but shall be, to a certain degree, shared by the whole community. We attempted to meet this want by publishing a "Plan for the Formation of Country Societies," now to be found in BULLETIN No. 12. Its design is to take the burden off the few, and distribute it among the many. The society being organized, the great question is: How shall we get our funds? And this question will be answered in as many different ways as the character, the size, and wealth of the community differ. We have suggested the "Alert Club" system, also published in No. 12, as being especially applicable to little country villages, where, unless all can be made to take an active interest in the work, it is exceedingly difficult to support a society. The Alert Club is composed entirely of young people. Its object is to keep the treasury of the parent society full—by taking up a small monthly collection from each member of the community, and by other means. Elder people like to sit still and sew, but dislike going from house to house, asking for money, for any purpose; younger people and children dislike the sitting still and the sewing, but enjoy the going about, and have not the same false pride about asking for money.

The money being obtained there is material to be bought. As has been stated before, we have facilities for buying materials in the city at wholesale prices, and at lower rates than the same quality can usually be obtained in the country. We will gladly make any purchases of material for you although we cannot undertake to pay the express charges upon them. To auxiliary societies, finding it impossible to support themselves, the following proposition was made in our Third Annual Report and is now repeated: "Any society sending us a sum of money not exceeding $30 per month, for the purchase of material, will receive double the amount in cotton, flannel or in such material as may be most desirable to have made up at the time. This offer is especially designed to revive and stimulate small societies whose chief difficulty has been the want of funds. Express charges must be paid by the societies ordering the goods."

We will suppose that our Society has now received its material. Forthwith a terrible discussion arises as to what patterns shall be used. Some go upon the principle that all soldiers are giants, and wish to cut all the garments twice the ordinary size; some cling to buttons; others insist upon strings. One authority is as good as another, and all authorities differ. And here we would ask you to trust the experience of those who have had most to do with sick and wounded soldiers in the hospitals. The patterns and measurements published in the BULLETIN have been based upon this experience, and have been prepared with great care. A pattern for a Hospital Flannel Shirt is to be found in BULLETIN No. 13—see correction in No. 17. Diagrams of Flannel and Cotton Drawers, same pattern, No. 13—see correction in No. 16. Cotton Shirt, BULLETIN No. 16. Slippers, Arm-Sling and Ration-bag, No. 22. Dressing-Gown or Wrapper, No. 25. Directions for making Bedding for Hospital use, Cushions, Bandages, Lint, &c., for knitting Socks, Mittens and Wristers, No. 31.

Imagine the garments cut out and made. Now comes the packing, directing and sending off. Directions for packing, invoices, &c., will be found in the Appendix of our Third Annual Report. Make what arrangement you can with steamboat, railroad and express companies, many of which are exceedingly liberal, to carry your box free; but should this be impossible, we would much rather pay the freight charges in New York, than have you prepay them. We can readily obtain money for this purpose, while it is much better for the work that all the money you can collect should be expended in materials. Our society has now sent off its first hospital box, and received a letter acknowledging its receipt at our rooms. This alone is scarcely satisfactory. You want to know what is being done with your supplies; what the Sanitary Commission is doing everywhere; you want to know, and ought to know, as much as you can, about the work. It is to meet these wants that the BULLETIN is published every fortnight. Its design is to give you the fullest and latest information about the Commission. The circulation of the BULLETIN through this Branch alone has increased from 2,400 to 2,600 copies during the past month. And yet we wish it was larger. We do not want subscribers, we want readers, and we will gladly furnish as many copies as may be asked for. A plan for facilitating the circulation of the BULLETIN in villages can be found in No. 29. And is this all that we can do to help our society? It seems so little. And yet you have written to say that what, with the information derived through the BULLETIN and from constant correspondence with us, you feel perfectly satisfied, entirely ready to keep on working. It is we, then, who are not satisfied for you. We want you to have the same advantages in the work that we have, we want you to have the opportunity of asking questions, and of talking face-to-face with agents of the Commission who have themselves put your shirts and drawers on to the soldiers. These agents are now going among you as lecturers. Although the specified time has elapsed, we are still ready to receive applications for lecturers, according to the proposition made in our Article No. 2, circulated among you as a fly-leaf with BULLETIN No. 28. We hope that, when these gentlemen come among you, you will allow them to fill in the missing links which we, at this distance can only feel are wanting, without seeing.

And so, dear friends, in this imperfect way we have tried to keep pace with you in your work; have tried, through sympathy, to put ourselves so far as we could in your position, hoping to clear away some of your difficulties. But the burden of the work still remains with you. How can it be otherwise? Our part in it is nothing—excepting as your trustees. No, it is your time and your money, your perseverance and endurance—above all, your steadfast will and loving hearts, which have been the means, through the grace of God, of alleviating the untold sufferings of this cruel, this righteous war.

LOUISA LEE SCHUYLER.
Chairman Committee on Correspondence, &c.

NEW YORK, 7 COOPER UNION,
February 16, 1865.

THE SOLDIER'S REST, BUFFALO, N. Y.

Buffalo, N. Y., is one of the half-way houses for western travel. Day and night the current from east to west and west to east, pours along the arterial railway; and day and night western soldiers assigned to eastern armies, and eastern soldiers assigned to western armies, come to a halt in the depot. Many of them are sick, at least not well; some just out of hospitals are on furlough; some with legs off, or arms

CONSOLIDATED REPORT OF "THE SOLDIERS' REST" AT BUFFALO, NEW YORK.

Showing by States the number of Men entertained and the number of Lodgings and Meals given.

1864.	California.	Colorado.	Connecticut.	Georgia.	Illinois.	Indiana.	Iowa.	Kansas.	Kentucky.	Louisiana.	Maine.	Maryland.	Massachusetts.	Michigan.	Minnesota.	Missouri.	Nebraska.	New Hampshire.	New Jersey.	New York.	North Carolina.	Ohio.	Pennsylvania.	Rhode Island.	Tennessee.	Texas.	Vermont.	West Virginia.	Wisconsin.	Independent Bat.	Marines.	Old Irish Brigade	Q. M. Department.	Refugees.	U. S. Regulars.	Unclassified.	V. Reserve Corps.	Total.	Lodgings.	Meals.	DAILY. Largest.	DAILY. Average.	Sent to Hospital.	Died.
June.....	1				3	5						3	13	2					3	31		6						6						7		19	83	84	344	21	3	2	1
July.....					4	1				1			6	6	2					156		7	6	1				2						7	1	1	223	151	532	23	7	1	
August.....	1				3	4	1						4	5						143		14	3											4		4	224	267	670	22	7	3	
September..			9		2	3			1		2		5	5	5	1				131		4	4														216	183	648	34	7	2	
October.....			4		3	4			1				4	6	3	1				197		17	7	1	1												407	468	1580	44	13	3	
November..			5		8	6	3		1	1		1	6	19	1	1	1		3	490		17	3						25				3	11		37	15	16	850	404	1567	146	28	6	1
December..			12		10	5	2		1	1	3	1	67	23	1	3			1	181		85	23	1				1	38	2	1		4	2	10	12	39	348	406	1135	35	11	4	1
1865.			2		11	7	13		16	3	2	1	9	5						1		5	2						6						2		14							
January....	1				82	67	95	2	24				1																																
Total.....	2	1	44	3	123	87	114	8	46	3	111	1	108	96	9	68	1	41	5	1555	1	390	54	3	6	3	6	3	117	1	15	2	24	11	178	46	145	3318	2497	8819			27	5

off, or their vitality sucked out by malaria, are discharged. Hundreds only halt in the depot, and are then whirled onward in their journey; while other hundreds walk, creep, or hobble into the street to look for a meal, or bed, or a place to rest until they can radiate from this centre to their respective homes. With but few exceptions they are moneyless, and with rare exceptions they are friendless; and at all times, but especially during these bitter howling months of winter, the questions—who will give me a bed without charge; where shall I obtain a meal without price? Are not only difficult to solve, but of vital importance to the brave fellows who con them over in their minds.

Immediately opposite the depot, standing out in a very modest way, as if it stood out solely from a feeling of duty, and not a whit with the feeling of vanity, is a snug, clean, home-like house, wearing on its brow the words "The Soldier's Rest"—"U. S. Sanitary Commission." Without articulating a syllable, simply by looking and being looked at, it answers the questions in a moment; and to its door walk, totter, or hobble the moneyless and friendless sons of Uncle Samuel, to find a bed, a meal, or a rest, without money and without price; to find carpets and chairs, lounges, books, and fires, which greet them with the genial smile of home, rather than with the bold stare of hotels; and which at once magnetize them into the conviction that the Rest was provided not so much for soldiers in the aggregate and concrete as for themselves individually and personally. It is amusing to see how, at first, some of them look from their shoes to the carpet, and back to the shoes, as if the one had no right on the other; and then how they sidle into a corner where there are no chairs, though they crowd the chairs out of the way to reach the corner. And when the warm-hearted lady who has been appointed superintendent by the warm-hearted ladies of the Buffalo Branch, coaxes them to give the chairs a fair chance along the walls by sitting down in them; and coaxes the weakest men to lie down on the lounges; and coaxes steaming dishes to come from out the tidy kitchen expressly to be eaten; and coaxes the white pillows and sheets to smooth all the wrinkles out of themselves, that they may woo sleep to smooth all the wrinkles out of the tired faces;—while all this is going on, it does one's heart good to see how the

carpets and chairs and walls nudge each other and laugh at the shoes for their timidity; and how quickly the men laugh heartier than all of them as the cheer and glow charm each one into the belief that before he enlisted he built the Rest for his own especial use, but had forgotten all about it till that minute.

The original design of the ladies who compose the Buffalo Branch of the United States Sanitary Commission, was to provide a temporary home for sick soldiers passing through their city, or to the hospitals of their city; and a large number of those who have received the benefits of the Rest have been of this class; but the numerous applications, and evident claims of well men for attention, have caused them to lay the case before Government officials, and with that generosity and humanity which has so eminently characterized the United States authorities, Government has decided to erect buildings on the same ground, and as a part of the Rest, for the accommodation of all soldiers who are justly entitled to rations and care, such regulations being established as that Government rations shall only be issued to soldiers, while, at the same time, the Sanitary Commission can from its own resources feed discharged men or others who are not entitled to subsistence.

The Rest was opened in June, and the daily average of men cared for was three; during July, August and September, the daily average was seven; October, thirteen; and January thirty-one; so that the work done during the last month is ten times as great as that of the first. No better indication of the necessity for the Rest, or of the absolute necessity for its continuance could be asked than this fact. During the eight months of its operation **3,318** enlisted men, from twenty-nine different States, have been cared for; **2,497** lodgings in sweet white beds have been given; and **8,869** hot, toothsome meals have been furnished; and all has been done in such a quiet, unpretending way that thousands of passers-by who might have glanced at the modest house, have not even noticed its existence, much less known its work. A meal to an emaciated convalescent often prevents a relapse, and a few nights quiet rest have saved many a life. If ideas ever take upon themselves a solid form, the "Rest" is but an expression of the Good Master's command, "Love one another."

FROM FORT FISHER.

We call attention to the subjoined extract from the Fort Fisher correspondence of the N. Y. *Tribune*. It will be gratifying to the people to know, that the wounded after the battle at that place, had every attention possible under the circumstances, and that the agents of the Sanitary Commission worked side by side with the army surgeons in alleviating distress. It is always thus in the field, and that a man, in the language of this writer, "traduces" the Sanitary, is pretty strong evidence that he has not been at the front to make its acquaintance.

The wounded were all carefully attended to and removed to the base hospital, from which they will be sent by steamer to Fortress Monroe at once. Dr. Barnes, the Medical Director of the army, deserves great praise for his indefatigable labors for the care of the wounded. He is ably assisted by an excellent corps of surgeons.

Mr. F. W. Foster, the Sanitary Agent, assisted by Mr. Adams, has been of great service to the wounded, being personally present on the field and in the hospitals, with his supplies of clothing and other necessary comforts at the time they were most needed. The men who traduce this excellent charity know nothing of what they speak. Its praise is the theme of all good and conscientious officers, soldiers and surgeons of the army.

OUR HEROES.

[The poem given below has been recited by Mr. Murdoch before large audiences in Philadelphia, where it was received with shouts, and applauded verse by verse.]

Cheers! cheers for our heroes!
Not those who wear stars;
Not those who wear eagles,
And leaflets and bars;
We know they are gallant,
And honor them too,
For bravely maintaining
The Red, White, and Blue.

But cheers for our soldiers,
Rough, wrinkled, and brown;
The men who MAKE heroes
And ask no renown:
Unselfish, untiring,
Intrepid and true,
The bulwark surrounding
The Red, White, and Blue!

Our patriot soldiers!
When treason arose,
And Freedom's own children
Assailed her as foes;

When Anarchy threatened
And Order withdrew,
They rallied to rescue
The Red, White and Blue!

Upholding our banner
On many a field,
The doom of the traitor
They valiantly sealed;
And, worn with the conflict,
Found vigor anew,
Where victory greeted
The Red, White, and Blue!

Yet loved ones have fallen—
And still where they sleep,
A sorrowing Nation
Shall silently weep;
And Spring's fairest flowers,
In gratitude strew
O'er those who have cherished
The Red, White, and Blue!

But glory immortal
Is waiting them now;
And chaplets unfading
Shall bind every brow,
When called by the trumpet,
At Time's great review,
They stand, who defended
The Red, White, and Blue!

WHY DOES THE SANITARY COMMISSION BUY VEGETABLES?

The question is often asked, and with great seeming grace, "Why does the Sanitary Commission waste the people's money in sending supplies of vegetables and other anti-scorbutics to the army, when it is well known that Government issues these stores with the greatest liberality, and on the largest scale?"

The following extract from a work on Military Surgery, by a gentleman who has for several years held a high position on the medical staff, is a sufficient answer to this question:

In the Army of the Cumberland, the surgeons, however, had been long reporting from week to week, the pressing necessity for vegetables; but we could not learn that any one of these reports had ever been seen or read by the commanding officers, and when it became our duty to call the attention of corps commanders, and even of the Commander-in-Chief of this army to the facts, with few exceptions, they confessed their entire ignorance of the true state of affairs. More than this the commissaries of brigades, of divisions, and of corps, as well as the Commissary General of the Army, who themselves received and distributed the supplies, fully believed that the soldiers had plenty of vegetables; and that, when they had not received more than three full rations in twelve months. The explanation of this extraordinary fact is, that during nearly all this time fresh potatoes, and occasionally other vegetables, were received and issued; but of one hundred barrels issued by the chief commissary, at lest twenty-five went to the staff officers' families and servants at headquarters, and to the Post, including often citizens and hospitals; of the seventy-five remaining for distribution to the corps commissaries, twenty-five more barrels disappeared again with the officers and their families; a third distribution to the division commissaries blotted out another twenty-five barrels, and a fourth to the brigade commissaries disposed of the remainder in a like manner, so that the regimental commissary received none; and it is here that the inquiry must always be made, or with the soldier himself, if an inspector desires to know how the troops are fed.

When it is remembered that a large portion of these vegetables is usually spoiled *in transitu* to the army, and that many more decay before the final distribution, it will be easy to understand how one hundred barrels, shown as received and distributed daily on the chief commissary's books, are completely sifted out before they reach the men in the field. In confirmation of this statement, we will quote a portion of our report for the month of May, 1863, made to the Commanding General of the Department of the Cumberland. It will be noticed that up to the first of April, the soldiers had not on an average received from the Government over three rations in twelve months, and that from this date General Rosecrans and his commissary had determined that the troops should be abundantly supplied. To this end, extraordinary efforts and attention were now directed to the matter. We will see with what result: "In my previous report I informed you, Sir, that from the first of April the Commissary General has been receiving at the rate of one hundred barrels of fresh potatoes per day, but that on the 9th of April, almost none of these had reached the regiments. On the 20th of May, I ascertained that this Department had received from the Government at the rate, on the average of 150 barrels per day, from the first day of April up to that moment, which at a fair computation would give one full ration of potatoes

to every soldier in the command on every alternate day.

"The fact of the arrival of these vegetables at this rate was, I found generally understood by the commanding officers, and Major General McCook, commanding the 20th corps, informed me that his mind had been completely set at rest upon this subject, by the report of his own inspector (not a medical officer) that the supply was now sufficient. I was able to furnish him, however, with the written statement of four regimental commissaries in his corps, and these were all of whom I had made inquiry, that only one full ration of potatoes had been received by the men in April, and but three in May."

We ought to mention that, during the periods when the Army of the Cumberland was in need of fresh vegetables, the U. S. Sanitary Commission was constantly supplying the General Hospitals on the field, the Post Hospitals, the Convalescent Camps, and, to some extent, the Regimental Hospitals, with potatoes, onions, and other vegetables; and when, in the early part of April, 1863, we notified Dr. Read, the chief of the Sanitary Commission of that department, of the urgent need that fresh vegetables should be supplied to the troop themselves who were in the field, the Commission responded with a promptness and liberality which were most gratifying, and which demonstrated the value and importance of their organization. It was understood that the army was preparing to advance, and an important battle was anticipated; under these circumstances, there could be no delay, if the troops were to be put into a healthy condition before the action occurred. The Sanitary Commission was notified of our wants on the 11th of April. On the 13th we were informed by Dr. Newberry, the energetic Secretary of the Western Department, that there would be "immediately forwarded large shipments of vegatables for Gen. Rosecrans's army by railroad and by boat, the superintendent of the road having been requested by the Commander-in-Chief to forward promptly all that the Commission can send." On the 16th, 130 barrels arrived at Murfreesboro; and from this time, for several weeks, they continued to arrive at the rate of about 100 barrels per day, and were distributed directly to the troops by the agents employed by the Commission. It is worthy of notice, also, that while those sent by the Government were often damaged by decay in consequence of the barrels having not been properly opened for ventilation before being shipped, and from delay or lack of care in the shipment; those sent by the Commission were always ventilated by an opening of about two inches in diameter in the sides or ends of the barrels before being shipped, and they were almost uniformly in good condition. At one time the Medical Director, Surgeon Perin, found at Murfreesboro 1,500 barrels lying in the Commissary storerooms; not one barrel of which, we believe, had any ventilation, and the contents of most of which, when we came to open them, were more or less decayed. They were waiting an order from the Commanding General to issue them, but the Commissary had failed to notify the General that they were on hand. The Medical Director, Dr. Perin, promptly informed the General, and an order was at once obtained for their issue.

Such facts as these do not always indicate inefficiency, perhaps, on the part of the Government officers, but rather that the multiplicity of their duties renders it difficult, if not impossible sometimes, to give the necessary attention to all the minor details.

The result of the more free introduction of fresh vegetables into the Army of the Cumberland was, that very soon the cases of scurvy were found to diminish in frequency and in severity; and when, on the twenty-fourth of June, the troops were moved forwards and an engagement with the enemy occurred, the wounds received by the soldiers healed more kindly and were followed by fewer accidents than had been the case after previous battles.—*Hamilton's Military Surgery, pages* 82–84, 86–88.

HOSPITAL CLOTHING.

The annexed letter treats of a subject which, up to the present time, has been too much neglected. It is true, as stated, that in many instances, soldiers have suffered from the preposterous size of the garments furnished by kind-hearted friends, whose zeal exceeded their knowledge. There was, in fact, at one time on exhibition at a distributing depot of the Commission an article supposed to be for soldiers' wear, the use of which was a mystery to many eminent men

of various professions, to whom it was exhibited. It is but fair to say, however, that this was in the early days of the war.

Nevertheless, a little more attention to this subject now will not be without benefit, and we bespeak for the following letter a careful perusal.

DEAR SIR:—Please make corrections in the next number of the BULLETIN of the article in No. 31, entitled "Bedding for Hospital use."

1st, Linen pieces *may* be *too* small; we have received many parcels of little scraps not more than two inches square, which can rarely be available. They *must* be clean.

2d, While we have in hand two hundred (200) barrels of lint, it seems unnecessary to suggest that more may be made; indeed it is wasteful to ravel up a single towel or handkerchief, especially when we are suffering from a *famine* of old linen and cotton pieces for dressings, and I believe the other Branches of the Sanitary Commission are in a like position.

3d, A pound of yarn, of the suitable quality, will knit three and a half (3½) pairs of socks; the sizes as given to us by a dealer in army socks, should be, 9½, 10 and 10½ inches, and twice as many of the medium size are required as of either of the other sizes. The soldiers have really suffered from the preposterous dimensions of garments made for them. In some hospitals I have heard of piles of shirts laid aside as useless, because they were so huge, and there was no one to alter them.

Respectfully yours,
ELLEN COLLINS,
Chairman Committee, &c.

TEN MONTHS IN LIBBY PRISON.

BY LOUIS PALMA DI CESNOLA.

Colonel Cesnola is a Sardinian of noble family, and was educated in the best military schools of Europe, having been placed in that at Paris when only nine years of age. His father was at that time Secretary of War under the Sardinian government. The son came to this country just before the breaking out of the rebellion, and hostilities quickly elicited his enthusiastic interest in the cause of the Union. Having had experience in the Crimean war, as a member of the staff of the Sardinian General-in-chief, he was well qualified for the duties of the field. In September, 1862, he took command of the 4th N. Y. cavalry, whose superior discipline and many brave achievements have gained for it an enviable fame. At the battle of Aldie, June, 1863, he was commended for his gallant conduct by General Kilpatrick, early in the action, but afterwards, while far in the advance, he was surrounded by superior numbers, and taken prisoner. He spent ten months in Libby prison. After his exchange he returned to his regiment, and led the brigade to which it belonged in many severe engagements previous to its mustering out, in September last.

Soon after entering Libby, the rebel officer in charge, offered Colonel Cesnola, with some other *foreigners*, better quarters than their fellow officers had, which proposal was indignantly rejected. "We are U. S. officers," they said.

I entered the service of the United States in October, 1861, and was captured in Virginia the 17th of June, 1863, at the cavalry engagement of Aldie. I was marched, mostly on foot, more than one hundred miles to Staunton, and thence by railroad conveyed to the rebel capital and confined in the Libby prison. I arrived in Richmond the 25th of June, at about four o'clock in the afternoon, and remained immured in that tobacco factory until the 24th of March, 1864, when I was specially exchanged for Colonel Brown of the 59th Georgia, (——) regiment.

SEARCHING FOR VALUABLES.

At my arrival in Libby I was called into the office of the commanding officer of that military prison, Captain (now Major) Thos. P. Turner, and by him, my name, rank, regiment, etc., was registered in his book; the walls of Turner's office were covered with captured U. S. colors, regimental battle-flags, and cavalry guidons. From that office I was ordered into a spacious dark hall, in a corner of which, a rebel seargeant searched me through from head to foot, in the roughest manner possible. He took away from me every little trinket I had, my penknife, eyeglasses, meerschaum-pipe, matches, and

a bunch of small keys; and was angry because he could not find any greenbacks on my person. He ordered me to take off my boots for inspection; I answered him that I always had a servant to perform that service for me. He insisted, but I refused until he took them off himself, and searched them very minutely. He asked me what I had done with my money, and if I had any watch. I told him that a chivalric Southron had stolen my watch and money during the march from Middleburg to Staunton. He began to abuse me, using very profane language and denying my veracity. I told him that perhaps the gentleman intended only to borrow those articles from me. Captain Fisher, a signal officer of the Army of the Potomac, was punished and kept walking for several hours with the sentinel at the prison's door simply for not giving up immediately his india rubber coat, which he justly claimed as his own private property. I entered therefore the gates of a Confederate prison stripped of everything except my spurs, which being screwed into the boots could not be removed. I remained in this deplorable condition, without a book to read, or a sheet of paper to write, for over five months, nursing my grief during the whole day, using my boots for a pillow during the night, and sleeping on the bare and often damp plank floor, with neither blanket nor overcoat, nor any other covering. Dogs had certainly better sleeping accommodations in their kennels than I had there. In the same wretched condition, however, were many other officers. We were compelled for several months to wash and scrub the floor, the kitchen, the tables and the sinks ourselves, and I cannot recollect but with feelings of admiration the serenity of countenance with which I saw our present Adjutant General of the State, Brigadier General W. Irvine (at that time Lieutenant Colonel of the 10th New York Cavalry), in shirt sleeves, scrubbing the floor when it was his turn to do so. I must confess such service was revolting to me, and I always found some good-hearted fellow prisoner who, for sake of exercise, would perform it in my stead. It may have been a mere chance, but it was precisely when the officers were performing such menial services that the southern ladies would come to have a peep at the Yankees, who certainly were not looking at that moment to their best advantage. I had but one single shirt during four months, and when I washed it, I looked more like a Roman Gladiator of olden times than a Colonel in the United States service.

RATIONS.

From June up to September, we had for ration the half of an ordinary sized loaf of wheat bread, tolerably good, though often sour. It is very true that the beans were of the poorest kind, in each of which there was the nest of an insect; and the small ration of meat tough, and not of the best quality; but hunger had no law, and I would swallow my ration, bad as it was, longing afterwards for that of my neighbor also. In the rooms where we were, no chairs could be seen, nor benches; in fact, nothing but the bare walls and the bare floor, with the exception of some boards roughly joined together in form of tables, at which one-tenth only of the prisoners could eat at a time. After September, our ration was considerably reduced in quality and quantity, and we received half a loaf of negro made corn bread, so hard that it was called by our officers *iron clad*, *solid shot*, *railroad iron*, etc., and some few ounces of meat, four or five times per month.

INSPECTOR OF PRISONS.

Richard Turner (no relation of Major Turner), a Marylander by birth, and a porter (I am told) by occupation, at the outbreaking of this war at the Eutaw House in the City of Baltimore, is the inspector of the Libby and of other military prisons in Richmond. So much has been said of the ferocity of this man by the press and by the testimony of other officers, that I have nothing to add. I wish I could lighten the heavy burden of misdeeds with which his name goes to posterity. As to myself, personally, he has never done any harm, but rather tried to do good.

He used to come into our rooms at different hours during the day, and if he could catch any officer sitting or lying on his blankets he would confiscate them for the use of his own horses. I was present one day when he caught Captain King, of the 12th Pennsylvania cavalry, spitting on the floor (he simply missed a box which was used as a spitoon), and he brought him down into a dungeon and kept him there for forty-eight hours, on bread and water.

SANITARY COMMISSION.

Early in October intelligence was received at the Libby that the United States Sanitary Commission and our government had

sent us a large quantity of boxes, containing blankets and other articles of clothing, etc. I made at once an application to get two blankets for my personal use. It was not, however, until the beginning of the next month that I succeeded in getting them, one to sleep on, and the other to cover me with. These blankets were issued to me by my friend and fellow prisoner, Brigadier General Neal Dow, who had been appointed by the rebel Colonel Ould, commissioner of exchange of prisoners of war, as commissary of distribution.

COMMISSARY OF DISTRIBUTION.

The 10th of November, 1863, late in the afternoon, I was called down stairs in Major Turner's office, and informed by him that I was selected to supersede General Neal Dow as commissary of distribution, whose appointment was obnoxious to General J. H. Winder, Military Governor of Richmond. I was informed that the selection was made on account of my being the next senior officer to the General. He further intimated that I would not be allowed to hold conversation with our men on Belle Isle, nor carry any verbal or written communication from the officers to the men, or vice versa, without previously submitting such communication to the rebel officer in command of the island, and of other personal restrictions. After having promised to comply with such orders, I was allowed to select amongst the field officers, two assistants, subject to the approval of General Winder. I selected Lieutenant Colonel Boyd, and my friend, Lieutenant Colonel Von Schrader, Inspector General of the 14th Army corps; both of whom were approved. The next morning Richard Turner, under whose control were all boxes sent from the North, informed me that he would not send the boxes of clothing down to Belle Isle if I did not pay the transportation for them. I had not one cent of my own, but Colonel Boyd had some funds in the rebel hands and offered to pay with that money the transportation; and after a day's delay it was accepted. We were allowed to go to Belle Isle at 10 A.M. every morning, and remain there until 4 o'clock P.M. Two policemen would accompany, or rather escort us from the Libby to Belle Isle, and from thence back to the prison, every day.

BELLE ISLE.

On the 13th of November there were at Belle Isle six thousand four hundred and thirty-four union soldiers as prisoners of war. I do not describe here the place, as I see it is pretty correctly done by Colonel Farnsworth, of the 1st Connecticut cavalry, in his testimony.

Lieutenant Bossieux, the officer in charge of that prison camp, was well spoken of universally, and I must confess that I found him gentlemanly, humane and generous-hearted. His name, however, shows his foreign origin, though he may have been born in Richmond. Every facility in his power was cheerfully afforded me for the distribution of the United States Sanitary Commission's goods, as well as for those sent by our government. Our prisoners there, were divided into squads of one hundred men, each under the command of a sergeant, (fellow-prisoner,) who was responsible to the rebel commander for the behaviour of his men. This camp was therefore divided into sixty-four squads, augmenting the number of the squads in proportion to the arrival of prisoners there.

DISTRIBUTION OF BLANKETS, CLOTHING, ETC.

We were permitted by Major Turner to see and count the number of boxes piled up in a warehouse near the Libby, and make a rough calculation of the quantity of each article of clothing contained in those boxes. The most necessary thing for those poor men were blankets; so we decided to distribute them without delay, but the number was too small to provide every man with one, so we gave a blanket to every two men. In the progress of distribution, the arrival of many more boxes from Fortress Monroe, enabled us to issue one to each man. The modus operandi was the following: Colonel Von Schrader, with a union soldier as a clerk, would take one squad outside of the enclosure on what was, by the rebels, called "the parade ground," and put down the name of each man and all the articles of clothing he needed into blank rolls sent us by the U. S. government for that purpose; Colonel Boyd and myself would likewise have each one a squad and a prisoner as clerk, to write down names and articles needed, in the same manner.

This method was only continued for the first two days, while we were awaiting the arrival of the boxes from Richmond. But as soon as we received a sufficient number of them, Colonel Boyd being a quartermaster, consented to distribute the articles,

while Colonel Von Schrader and myself continued taking down the names and articles wanted by the men. We used to inspect about eight squads a day; the distributing officer, however, could not proceed so fast, as he had to open the boxes, etc.; the average of squads furnished per day was three, that is three hundred men. The greatest part of the day was lost in going from Richmond to Belle Isle, and returning. Sometimes the boatman was not there to convey us to the other side of the James river, and much precious time was thus lost. I endeavored to obtain permission to sleep at Belle Isle, in order to be at work early in the morning in distributing, as the cold weather was terribly felt by our poor men. But Major Turner had no power to grant this, and having asked General Winder if an application to him in writing, signed by the Committee of Distribution, would be taken into consideration, his brutish answer was, "*No, certainly not.*"

Besides the time lost in going and coming back and waiting for the boat, we lost much time there also, as the squads when called out by us, were sometimes receiving their rations; at another they were at roll-call, etc. So we could not transact business really more than three hours every day, which retarded the distribution considerably, while we would have very willingly distributed day and night in order to shelter with good warm clothes the thousands of half naked bodies, shivering from head to foot from cold and hunger. I am a soldier by profession since my boyhood; I have been in several wars in Europe; I am familiar with death, and have seen it in all its different aspects, but my heart has never been moved as it was by the condition of those men at Belle Isle. Their frozen feet wrapped in a piece of blanket or an old flannel shirt, in place of the boots which were taken away from them by their captors, those long, pale, hungry faces, with hair and beard uncut for months; a kind of perpetual motion given to their bodies by the millions of vermin that devoured their very flesh; their emaciated forms, telling at first sight how many long and weary, weary months they had been there fighting against death in the form of scurvy, low fevers, diarrhœa, congestion of the lungs, etc.; their feeble voices saying, "Oh! Colonel, do give us something to eat, for God's sake," etc. These scenes, I confess, were to me heartrending in the extreme. These men received at meal time, one bucket of broken pieces of corn bread, and one bucket of over-boiled sweet potatoes for every one hundred men! I saw it myself many times. Indeed, it was so revolting that I think even pigs would have sickened at it. How the chiefs of squads could divide so small a quantity of food in one hundred parts has always been for me a problem, which I am still unable to solve; though often, while distributing the clothing, some men would come to me and complain that for whole days they could not get anything to eat, because before their turn came the bucket was empty!

It was no wonder if these poor, starved human beings would eat rats and dogs. I recollect the fact of a rebel officer having gone inside the inclosure to visit the prisoners, accompanied by a dog. He did not miss it until he was coming out; but, alas! it was too late, and by that time he could only see one man gnawing with voracity his dog's last bone! The next day the Richmond Enquirer, edited by that Irish patriot, John Mitchell, had a leading article entitled, "Dogs eat dogs," and gave the particulars of the affair, summing up by saying that the Yankee prisoners at Belle Isle, though furnished with plenty of wholesome food, preferred to eat dogs.

Of these six thousand four hundred and thirty-four prisoners, over seven hundred were at the time I first visited Belle Isle, without tents or any shelter whatever at night, lying in ditches, or digging holes in the sandy ground in which they slept in a bundle, one over the other, and I heard that often in the morning those who were on the top were found frozen to death, and I actually saw men wrapped up in blankets brought out of the enclosure who were found dead and frozen in ditches outside of the tents!

Upon this subject I had frequent conversations with Lieutenant Bossieux, who told me himself he had several times made proper requisitions for the necessary tents; that he went to see the quartermaster of the prison himself (an Ohio renegade, was a greater scoundrel than any of the Southren race); that they were promised but never delivered. He also told me he had made a plan for barracks which would have cost very little and would have accommodated our men all comfortably, but that he never heard anything more about it, nor of boards given for that or any other purpose. After

having distributed the contents of several boxes, I perceived that the empty boxes were, by order of Lieutenant Bossieux piled up as if to be used for some purpose. I went to see him, and told him I intended to give to the men those empty boxes, so that they could floor their tents with them. He said he had instructions from the quartermaster to save all those boxes, that he wanted them to pack army clothing in, but he would give me in return the boards necessary to floor all the tents. I said nothing further for three or four days, but seeing that the boards were coming only in the same manner as the tents so many times asked, I took upon myself, at the cost of being susperseded for it, not to wait any longer, and I distributed them to the men, gladdening many hearts. A portion of these boxes were used to make coffins for those who had ceased to suffer in this wicked place.

PLUNDERING.

There has been so much said about the rebel government stealing half the boxes sent to us by the government, and the United States Sanitary Commission, that I have recalled to my memory all the minutest particulars which have reference to them, and I have come to the conclusion that the largest number of the boxes of clothing were turned over to us for distribution, and that they had no official connection with the heavy robberies which we have unfortunately sustained, and were unable to prevent.

RICHMOND CITY BATTALIONS.

It is true that the Richmond City battalions, who guarded the federal prisoners, had a large number of their men clothed in U. S. uniforms, but my opinion (I may be wrong) is, that the warehouse adjacent to the Libby, in which all our boxes were stored and guarded by them, was visited at night by these undisciplined and unprincipled soldiery, who would appropriate to themselves and sell to others, all the clothing they wanted. I came to this conclusion, after I had visited that warehouse several times, as I found ragged rebel uniforms left here and there in the corners of the warehouse; showing plainly that some of the rebels had made their hasty toilet there. When one hundred and nine union officers escaped from the Libby, through the tunnel, I had the scurvy and could not join the party. The next morning I conversed with some of the sentinels, and laughed at their great vigilance during the previous night. They said that they had seen men coming out from the yard of the warehouse, and running as fast as they could, but they supposed *it was some of their own guard making a raid on our boxes.* Several times in the stillness of the night, I heard plainly in the warehouse the hammering and breaking of boxes, but this was the robbers' midnight work, and scarcely chargeable to the rebel authorities. The rebel government was, however, guilty of the grossest indifference as to the safe keeping of our boxes; of that there is no doubt, but I cannot bring myself to believe that their authorities were officially connected with it.

The boxes sent from Richmond to Belle Isle for immediate distribution, were also plundered during the night, even after I obtained permission to put some of our own men to guard them. Our hungry men, tempted by the sentinels with bread and pies, would give a portion of the clothing issued to them, for both or either of them; and, as in all large communities, there were amongst our prisoners some rascals who would steal the clothing of their sleeping comrades and sell them likewise to the guard. Colonel Von Schrader and myself remonstrated several times to Lieutenant Bossieux, and he put several of his men in irons for having bought clothing from our prisoners, but the evil could not be stopped by us.

I have often been present at guard mounting in Belle Isle, and remarked the relieved party (sometimes half of them) would have either U. S. blankets, overcoats or pantaloons, and the relieving party of that day would come off duty the next morning similarly supplied with new U. S. clothes. These facts, of course, not being generally known to our fellow prisoners, and from the barred windows of the Libby seeing a very large number of the guard dressed in U. S. uniforms, they came to the very natural conclusion that the rebel government was robbing us to clothe their own men.

The rebel authorities have never given to Colonel Boyd or Colonel Von Schrader or myself (that I am aware of,) the invoices which, I suppose both the government and the U. S. Sanitary Commission must have sent with the goods. I asked Major Turner if he had those invoices; he replied he had not seen them. I inquired also of Richard Turner in regard to them, but he rudely told me that it was not my business. From

this reason I was unable to find out how many boxes were sent to us.

MAKING SHOES.

My narrative now soon comes to a close. Towards the latter part of November I was superseded as Commissary of Distribution by order of General J. H. Winder. Two causes originated it. The first was this: The rebels came one day to Belle Isle, and paroled four hundred men to make shoes for their army, and intimated that they would come again in a few days to parole several hundred more for the same object. I decided at once to do what I considered the duty of a U. S. officer, and interfere in this matter. I sent for several of the chiefs of squads, and told them to inform the men that by going to work for the rebels they were breaking their oath towards the U. S. government, and were helping instead of fighting the enemy of their country; that they would be all liable to be court-martialed for it as soon as they reached our lines, and that I considered it my duty to inform them of it. These sergeants went at once to see their men, and the result was that when the rebels came the second time, they could not get a single one, and soon they discovered the reason of it.

The second cause for which I was superseded is the following. One morning, rather earlier than usual, we were ordered out of our room for the purpose of having it scrubbed by the negroes. The overseer who had charge of the negroes (always with a stick in his hands), came to the corner where I had my quarters, and two buckets of water were thrown on the floor by his negroes before I was aware of their presence. In the haste of leaving the room my friend and messmate, Lieutenant Morley, of the 12th Pennsylvania cavalry, had left a piece of ham on the shelf, within reach of any unscrupulous hand which chose to take it. I called him back and told him to put it out of reach, as I was as much afraid of negro thieves as of white ones. The overseer, whom I had not perceived was behind me, heard the remark and applied the meaning to himself. To my surprise he put one hand on my shoulder and made use of the following language: God d—m you, do you mean that I am a thief? If a hot iron had touched my skin it would not have maddened me more than his insolent touch did. I turned myself towards him, and in a second I had him by the throat with both my hands, down he went on the floor, and I struck him many times as hard as I could on his face, until my rage was satisfied. The negroes were jubilant, and of course nobody interfered to help the overseer. I was called down stairs in Major Turner's office, where I explained the whole affair, and though I was not punished bodily, my supercedure took place on that very morning.

From November to March, 1864, I was not allowed to leave for a single moment the Libby prison, and when they began to parole and send North some officers, all all the other colonels but two were sent North before me; though I had been a prisoner longer than any of them. Colonel Robert Ould, the rebel Commissioner, to whom I was obnoxious, said that he did not want to send me North at all, but he would keep me in prison as long as he liked; but he was nevertheless soon afterwards compelled to send me, as Colonel Jack Brown, of the 59th Georgia regiment was sent South conditionally, that if he could not get me exchanged for him, he was to return North and be kept as long as I was held by the rebel authorities.

LOUIS PALMA DI CESNOLA,
Late Colonel 4th N. Y. Cav.

New York, 13th Feb., 1865.

City and County of New York, ss.

Sworn to before me,

JOHN ROGERS,
Commissioner of Deeds.

Dated at NEW YORK, Feb. 15, 1865.

TO SURGEONS.

A Treatise on Military Surgery and Hygiene.

By FRANK HASTINGS HAMILTON, M.D., late Lieutenant-Colonel, Medical Inspector, U.S.A.; Professor of Military Surgery and Hygiene, and of Fractures and Dislocations, in Bellevue Medical College; Surgeon to Bellevue Hospital; Professor of Military Surgery, &c., in Long Island College Hospital; author of "Treatise on Fractures and Dislocations," and of a "Practical Treatise on Military Surgery." Balliere Brothers, New York.

Of this admirable book, we cannot here say all that it demands of us. Military surgery, though distinct in its applications from civil surgery, and requiring a modified and more extended terminology, is becoming

so essential to the practitioner in civil life, that he who would faithfully serve the profession at home, dare not remain ignorant of the new developments of science which have grown upon us with the progress of the war. Tens of thousands of disabled soldiers are being sent from the field and post hospitals to Northern cities. Tens of thousands discharged from disability are falling back upon the professional care of village physicians, and for many years to come the necessity will continue for the application of military surgery in civil life.

When the Medical Bureau of the Government shall have presented the reports of its herculean labors to the people, it will be seen what vast contributions have been made to this branch of science, but as that may not be done for years to come, the profession will be glad to avail themselves of this practical manual.

The several chapters include the subjects of Examination and Qualifications of Recruits; General Hygiene; Bivouac; Accommodation of Troops in Tents, Barracks, Billets, Huts, Cabins, Hospitals, with plans of various U. S. Army Hospitals recently constructed; Preparations for the Field; U. S. Army Ambulance Corps as at present organized; Field Medical Service; our means of Transportation of Sick and Wounded Soldiers, including the new Railroad Cars, accompanied with working drawings for their construction—an entirely new feature in transportation—first introduced by Dr. E. Harris, of the Sanitary Commission; Hygienic Management of Troops on the March; General Consideration of Gunshot Wounds; Gunshot Wounds of the Head, Neck, Chest, Abdomen, Extremities; Punctured and Incised Wounds; a complete chapter on Arrow Wounds, illustrated with cases and woodcuts (a new feature in a work on Military Surgery).

Gunshot Fractures, with illustrations of the various forms of apparatus now in use and found most serviceable by our Army Surgeons; Anæsthetics, their value and danger; Hospital Gangrene; Dry Grangrene; Scurvy; Diarrhœa and Dysentery.

General remarks on Amputations; Special Amputations, illustrated by woodcuts; Exsections, illustrated also fully; etc., etc.

It is the result of the author's own experience during three years' active service on the field; and to this has been added, as far as possible, the experience of other U. S. Army Surgeons and foreign surgeons.

The typographical character of the book is in the usual complete style of the enterprising publishers.

THREE MONTHS IN THE SERVICE OF THE U. S. SANITARY COMMISSION.

NO. VI.—STILL AT WHITE HOUSE, VA.

At midnight of the 9th, two hospital steamers, the *Wenonah* and *George Weems*, made fast to the *Elizabeth*, and we put on each of the boats full supplies for all sick and wounded on board, and laid down on our blankets, by 2 A. M. of the 10th of June. On that day the *James Guy* arrived from Washington, and the sad intelligence of the death of Dr. Winslow was confirmed. He was in the act of drawing water from the Potomac, for a favorite horse he had on board the *Guy*, (and the care of which he would entrust to no other person,) and the steamer being under full headway, directly the bucket touched the water it jerked him headlong overboard. Every effort was made to save him, but of no avail—he sank to rise no more, long before assistance could reach the spot where he was last seen. In the loss of Dr. Winslow the U. S. Sanitary Commission lost an unwearying worker, of immense influence for good, and suffering humanity an ever true friend. In passing I would remark, that his son, the wounded colonel, died in a few weeks afterward of the wounds he had received at the Wilderness fights. On the above day we were favored with a new sensation—a *colored* guard brought down 700 prisoners of war from the front. These and all prisoners in our hands at that point were sent to Fort Delaware. The day was furthermore remarkable because the news of the nomination of Abraham Lincoln and Andrew Johnson reached us, causing great rejoicing. All our wounded were by that time well cared for; not more than 100 per day were arriving, and all around signs

were multiplying of an early evacuation of the place. Every day now brought numerous acquisitions to our auxiliary force, and it was well, for not less than 1600 bad cases needed the unremitting care of qualified nurses.

On Sunday, June 12th, Dr. Marks held Divine service. The sad scenes we had passed through seemed to have ripened the religious feelings of all, or nearly all, in the Commission; for all heard the word gladly, and several things were determined upon and carried into execution; among which were the establishment of morning and evening meetings for prayer and conference. These were not only countenanced by the Directors, but frequently one or more assisted in the exercises. These meetings were to continue so long as other duties did not divide us nor press so heavily upon us as to prevent our gathering. Another gratifying feature was introduced into our domestic arrangements namely, that of asking God's blessing upon our meat and drink in the dining-room at the public table. I am pleased to say our hurry was never so great as to cause us to omit that tribute of grateful hearts. Its influence we may never be able to bound, but that it was a great good to many souls I have no doubt. At that table sat men who had come from all quarters of the world. They asked of the Sanitary Commission food and lodging; it was freely accorded them after due proof had been given of their need. The tables were loaded with God's bounties, given through the people of the United States to the weary, sick, wounded and unexpectedly destitute soldier; also to those who had left homes far away, and had come to the front in search of loved sons, husbands, or brother, many of whom had money to pay for what they needed but could not purchase, and but for the U. S. Sanitary Commission, they must have starved, even while their pockets were filled with money. These joined us in our meals —the gentle, the rough, the illiterate, and the learned, the officer and the private—all at the same table. The plain fare was placed in good shape and condition on the table—the bell was rung—the guests took their seats at the tables, and as the Purveyor saw some guest at the table who be believed to be a christian, he would ask him to invoke God's blessing on the food. During the invocation the waiters would stand in silence —every voice being hushed, while, perhaps some soldier supplicated Divine favor on the food, its recipients, and their dear, but far distant, friends. I have dwelt on this point more at length than the subject seemed to warrant. But it really deserves what I have said, and much more, from the moral effects and sweet religious awakenings which flowed from it. Among the employees of the U. S. Sanitary Commission were rough laborers, especially engaged for their capacity for heavy, manual toil. Many of these were, perhaps, brought under wholesome moral influence, and the effect on them was of the best character, if we are permitted to accept their professions given subsequently, and under circumstances which would favor sincere utterances. Another large class of persons who had good reasons for thanking God for the establishment of this sweet exercise, were those whose early religious convictions had been choked by the excitements incident to their mode of life,—such frequently informed me that the impressive character of the scenes alluded to, had awakened them to the performance of long neglected duties. And to-day, in thousands of families throughout the loyal States, does the incense of prayer and praise burn, whose flames were relighted at the altars set up in the boats and tents of the Sanitary Commission.

LETTER FROM NASHVILLE.

BY EDWARD J. ENO.

NASHVILLE, *January* 25, 1865.

JUDGE E. ROOT,

DEAR SIR:—With this I hand you a statement of the disposition made of the car-load sanitary stores taken to Huntsville last week.

I found nearly all the 4th army corps in camp at or near this place, resting after a very hard campaign, and fitting up preparatory to the next, with new ambulances, huts and clothing.

The men were generally in good condition, well satisfied with the results of the season's work, and confident of future success.

There was one general hospital under the charge of Dr. Baldwin, with about 195 patients, generally doing very well. Their sanitary supplies were nearly exhausted, and ours came very opportunely. The general field hospital of the Cumberland, was also there in charge of Dr. Bissell. There were but few patients and the doctor asked for only a small quantity of sanitary stores.

It was then three weeks to the close of school, and if we could get it done by that

After consulting with the Medical Directors of the corps and post, it was thought advisable to open Sanitary Rooms, and on application to the Post Commander, Col. Lyon, he gave orders to the Quartermaster "to furnish us the best he could find." Since my return a telegram from Dr. Evans says they are secured.

Stevenson is a point requiring considerable aid from Sanitary. Dr. Humphrey, in charge of Post Hospital, appears to be doing all he can for the comfort of the men in his charge, and really requires a much larger amount of sanitary goods than the number of his patients would indicate, for the reason that so many are thrown upon him temporarily, on the way to or from their commands or hospitals.

The Home at this place (Stevenson,) is in charge of the Government, but needs the aid of Commission to help make convalescents comfortable, who are obliged to stop there waiting transportation. Government does not furnish *beds* or *blankets*, and the superintendent asks the Commission to furnish about thirty for sick and convalescents.

I have applied to the Medical Purveyor, and he assures me there is no authority to issue, there being no medical officer connected with the institution to receipt to him for them. In other respects I should think the Home well managed, and a very important station for soldiers going to and from their commands. Here they have to change cars, and remain from 6 to 24 hours. The books show that they feed an average of nearly 500 per day.

Dr. Humphrey had rooms vacated, and promised to reserve them for the Sanitary Commission. I would advise stores being sent there, with an agent to distribute them. It would not be necessary for a man to remain there all the time. A few days once in two weeks would be sufficient.

FOR THE CHILDREN.

The following little story is for the encouragement of Alert Clubs and Sunday-school societies and little sewing circles, that are at work for the Sanitary Commission. We will have severe struggles yet before this wicked rebellion shall come to an end, and every little boy and girl in the land should do something more in behalf of the country, that when peace shall come again, and the Union be established, every little heart will feel glad that its pulses were fresh and warm on the side of humanity and liberty.

BUSY BEES.

Their hive is an old stone school-house, with a low roof, and the most uncomfortable of seats. But we mustn't say much against it, for it was built as many as twenty years ago, when the prairie was first settled, and it is the mother of one of the two churches which stand close by it, and the grandmother of the other, and I've heard some of the old pioneers say that every stone in it was laid up with a prayer. Dear, venerable old school-house! its days are numbered, and soon its stones will be used for the foundation of another. So much for the hive.

The queen-bee last summer was Miss Bell—anybody could tell that a great way off, for as soon as she came in sight there was such buzzing, and flying to meet her, and crowding around her.

One day in August, Mrs. Smith, the minister's wife, came into the hive. She lives in the parsonage across the street; and because she hasn't any little children of her own, she claims tithes of all the boys and girls in the village.

She heard us read and spell, and say the multiplication table, up and down, forward and backward, and criss-cross.

Then we sang, and just before we were dismissed, Miss Bell asked her "to make some remarks." She laughed, and said, "Children, how many of you have friends in the army?"

Ever so many hands went up. Almost every child had either brother, cousin, or uncle there. Miss Bell didn't raise her hand, but we all knew she was thinking of a soldier's grave away down at Vicksburg, whose turf wasn't green yet, where lay her only brother. The next question was, "How many would like to do something for the soldiers?"

Forty right hands went up, and forty pairs of eyes shone like stars. What we were to do was this: Each one to make a block of patchwork for a quilt, and to *earn* all the pennies we could to buy the cotton and the lining for it.

The blocks were to be made like one she showed us, with a white center, on which the name and age of the one who gave it was to be written. Miss Bell agreed to help us, and write the names with her indelible pencil.

time, we were to invite our mothers to quilt it for us at the parsonage on the last day, while we had a pic-nic in the yard. You may be sure we all voted for it, especially the pic-nic.

For the next three weeks there was a humming and buzzing indeed, and such a flying back and forth between the parsonage and school-house with blocks and pennies!

Some of us were so excited we forgot to shut the gate, and the cows got in and came near eating up Mr. Smith's cabbages! The boys were as busy as the girls, though they had to get the girls to do their sewing for them, except Ellis, who sewed his own block with the nicest little stitches you ever saw.

It was funny to hear how they earned their pennies: one drove a cow to pasture, some drove horses on reapers, some picked up chips or brought in wood, and the girls rocked the babies, washed dishes, picked plums, and little Elsie washed her still smaller brother's face every morning, and bravely earned her penny in spite of his protests.

The last day came, it was as pleasant as if it had been made on purpose for us. The blocks were all finished, marked and set together—about three dollars in money had been collected and the cotton and lining bought. There were thirty-five blocks in the quilt; thirty-four of them had names and ages on them—none over twelve years—and on the centre one was written "Bradford County. For any soldier who loves little children."

We have gone on ever since working in this way—calling ourselves Busy Bees; but sometimes we are more buzzy than busy. We have made a good many comfort-bags and handkerchiefs, and almost blocks enough for another quilt. Our motto is, "Gather up the fragments, that nothing be lost;" and we learn a verse to repeat in concert every time.

But the best thing of all was what became of our quilt. It was sent in a box from the Ladies' Aid Society to the Sanitary Commission, with a note, saying if the one who got it would write to any of us, he would not need to advertise for correspondence.

It was almost three months before we heard from it, and we began to think some of those dreadful officers, that are said to get everything that goes to the Sanitary Commission, had got our quilt surely.

Our winter school had begun under a new teacher, when Mrs. Smith came in again one afternoon, with a letter in her hand, which she read to us, as follows:

MEMPHIS, TENN, *Nov.* 27, 1864.

To Thirty-four Little Friends of Mine, Bradford County,

DEAR FRIENDS:—Cold weather is coming on, you know, even down here in the "sunny South;" and, being away from my regiment, and not able to get any clothing or blankets from Uncle Sam, I went to the Sanitary Commission, and was given that splendid quilt that your pennies and busy little fingers made.

I am a Minnesota soldier, though I lived a number of years in your State, and know where you little folks live.

And now, I want to thank you all for your gift to the soldier, and tell you how highly I value it, how carefully I shall preserve it, and how I shall take it home with me (if I don't wear it out, and live to go home,) and keep it as a relic of my army life and in memory of my loyal and true little friends in Bradford County Keep on, little friends; don't be afraid the soldiers don't get your kindly gifts. Little hands never, never worked in so good and noble a cause. We soldiers honor and are proud of you all. I have not got any little children of my own; but I have father and mother, and brothers and sisters, who think I am very dear to them.

Brighter days are dawning, little friends, and I hope the day is not far off when your fathers and brothers can come home to you again. Once more I thank you as only a soldier can for your gift, and that God will help you all to grow up to be true men and women, and ever let His benediction of love rest upon you, is the earnest, hearty wish of

Your soldier friend, J. S. T——, Jr.,
Private, Co. E, —th Reg. Minn. Inf'ry.

P. S.—Will Mrs. Smith appropriate her share of this letter, and of my thanks. You are all very, very kind to us, and we are not insensible to it, even if it does seem sometimes as if all the good in us would be warped and destroyed. You will have to reform and polish us up when we come home. J. S. T., Jr.

So, you see, *one private* did get something from the Sanitary Commission, and, by his prompt and graceful acknowledgment of it, more than forty little folks were made happy and taught that even their little hands can do something for the needy and suffering; a lesson worth more to them than their gift to a shivering soldier. "He that watereth shall be watered also himself."—*N. Y. Independent.*

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3*d. To prevent false claims from being made against the Government.*

4*th. To give gratuitous advice and information to soldiers and sailors or their families needing it.*

THE U. S. SANITARY COMMISSION

Was constituted by the Secretary of War in June, 1861, in accordance with the recommendation of the Surgeon-General of the United States Army, and its appointment and plan of organization were approved by the President of the United States Its present organization is as follows:

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The Sanitary Commission has made arrangements for supplying information gratuitously, with regard to patients in all the United States General Hospitals.

For information relative to patients in the Hospitals in New York, New Jersey, the New England States, Eastern Virginia, Maryland, District of Columbia, North Carolina, South Carolina, Florida and Louisiana, address "Office of Sanitary Commission, Washington, D. C."

For the Hospitals in Pennsylvania, address "Office of Sanitary Commission, No. 1307 Chestnut Street, Philadelphia."

For the Hospitals in Western Virginia, Ohio, Indiana, Illinois, Missouri, Iowa, Kentucky, Tennessee, Mississippi, and Arkansas, address "Office Sanitary Commission, Louisville, Ky."

In all cases the name, rank, company, and regi-

ment of the person inquired for should be given, and where he was when last heard from. If the application is by letter, the answer will be sent by return of mail; if in person, it will be answered at once; or if by telegraph, an answer will be returned immediately at the inquirer's expense.

☞Soldiers' Aid Societies, clergymen, editors, and others, can scarcely serve the cause of humanity more effectually than by frequently and widely disseminating a knowledge of the above, among those who have friends in the army.

SUPPLY DEPARTMENT.

The Sanitary Commission, under special authority of the President of the United States, maintains an extensive system of agencies for securing the safe conveyance to, and distribution of, goods put in its charge for the sick and wounded at points where they are most wanted. It operates with equal care and generosity at all points—at New Orleans and at Washington, before Charleston and at Chattanooga—its distributions being governed by a comparison of the wants of the patients in all cases. The following is a list of depots, to which auxiliary societies and all disposed to aid the sick and wounded, without reference to States or localities, but simply to their relative necessity for assistance, are invited to send their offerings:

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U. S. Sanitary Commission, Nos. 10 & 11 Cooper Union, New York.

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U. S. Sanitary Commission, Annapolis, Md.

U. S. Sanitary Commission, Camp Parole, Md.

U. S. Sanitary Commission, Norfolk, Va.

U. S. Sanitary Commission, City Point, Va.

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U. S. Sanitary Commission, No. 32 Larned Street, Detroit, Mich.

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The Commission receives no pecuniary aid whatever from the Government, and is wholly dependent on the voluntary contributions of the public for the means of sustaining its operations. Contributions to the Treasury are solicited, and may be transmitted to George T. Strong, Esq., Treasurer, 68 Wall Street, N. Y.

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"Soldiers' Lodge," Harrisburg, Pa.

"The Home," Baltimore, Md.

"Home for Wives, Mothers and Children of Soldiers," Annapolis, Md.

"Special Relief Office," No. 389 H Street, Washington, D. C., where assistance is rendered in procuring Pay, Pensions, Bounty, Prize Money, and arrears of Pay and Bounty, and in various other ways.

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"Home for Wives, Mothers and Children of Soldiers," 374 N. Capitol St., Washington, D. C.

"Lodge No. 4," for discharged soldiers, No. 389 H Street, Washington, D. C.

"Lodge No. 5," near terminus of Washington and Alexandria R. R., Maryland Avenue, Washington, D. C.

"Lodge No. 6," near Steamboat Landing, Sixth Street, Washington, D. C.

"Alexandria Lodge," near terminus of Orange and Alexandria R. R., Alexandria, Va.

"Special Relief Office," New Orleans, La.

"The Home," New Orleans, La.

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Soldiers' Home, Louisville, Ky., James Malona, Sup't. James Morton, Special Relief Agent.

Soldiers' Home, New Albany, corner of Main and State Streets.

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WASHINGTON CITY, D.C., Dec. 12, 1863.

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SIR:—In answer to your letter of the 1st inst., I am directed to inform you, that the Report and recommendation of the Medical Board recently assembled in New York, to examine samples and models of Artificial Limbs, is not designed to supersede the recommendation of the former Board, SO FAR AS REGARDS THE LIMBS MANUFACTURED BY YOU.

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